

Atlantic Richfield Company

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February 8, 2013

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Jere Johnson
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-9-1
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: January 2013 Monthly Report, Yerington Mine Site, Lyon County, Nevada: Administrative Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), CERCLA Docket No. 9-2007-0005; Administrative Order on Consent, CERCLA Docket No. 09-2009-0010

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Pursuant to the above referenced orders issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 9 (EPA), Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) has prepared this January 2013 monthly report for RI/FS and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities at the Yerington Mine Site (Site).

January 2013 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continued Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities. Security cameras at various locations (e.g., Main and Arimetco gates, entrances to buildings) indicated no activity of concern.
- The Wind Dancer the Lined Evaporation Pond (LEP) middle cell was re-activated, and powered by a generator, the Wind Dancer at the Slot Pond remained in service, and the Wind Dancers at the Pumpback Well System (PWS) Pond remained out of service. Propane cannons were operated at the Arimetco Fluid Management System (FMS) ponds with the exception of the VLT Pond, as directed by EPA. New recharging solar panels were installed for the propane cannon batteries. Bird guard towers 'A', 'B' and 'C' around the pumpback and lined evaporation ponds were turned on due to snowfall and rain events that created incidental water in the ponds. Start/stop times on all propane cannons continued to be adjusted to reflect the changing timing of sunrise and sunset.
- Due to freezing conditions resulting in nearby bird habitat areas being iced over, extra bird hazing efforts were implemented in January, which included deployment of extra wind sock (air dancer), helikites, commercial helium balloons and decoys. The last week of the month experienced warmer temperatures with thawing habitat areas.
- Water levels in the north and middle cells of the PWS Evaporation Pond cells remained at or close to 0 feet (the middle cell contained minor ponded water), and the south cell was 0.25 feet.
- Arimetco FMS pond levels: Phase 1 Pond = 3.45 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond = 8.83 feet; VLT Pond = 9.24 feet; Slot 2 Pond = 8.71 feet. Freeboard in the FMS Evaporation Pond was at 1.32 feet as of January 31. No fluid transfers occurred in January. See FMS attached monitoring data.

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January 2013 Activities - Continued

Site Security and O&M Activities - Continued

- Approximately 203,749 gallons were pumped from the leak detectors in January: 25,294 gallons from SD2 near the Slot Pond and 178,011 gallons from VLTD1 at the recently re-constructed VLT Pond (see attached monitoring data). As requested by EPA, ARC monitored leak detectors VLTP1 and VLTD1 during the VLT Pond close-out period.
- Per EPA request, ARC assisted EPA with: 1) installation of the new VLT Pond inlet flow meter and continued monitoring and operation of the VLT ditch leak detector; and 2) operation of the EPA collection ditch leak detector sump. A pump failure in operating the VLT collection ditch occurred on January 31. Discussions continued with EPA on completing the VLT Pond and ditch repair construction, including the VLT pump system and request for final directions from EPA for O&M requirements (e.g., protocols for the Phase III-4X ditch and VLT ditch collector).
- Tri State Surveying performed topographic surveys of the FMS and VLT Ponds on January 3 and 15.

Other Site Activities

- SPS and B.V. Nevada continue discussions regarding the burning or shredding of accumulated scrap wood.
- Desert Engineering assisted with the consolidation of petroleum-impacted soils (from the VLT Transformer clean-up and the Process Areas sub-surface utility/dry well investigation) on January 21-22 in preparation for the off-Site shipment of these wastes.

Site Characterization Activities

- Performed the semi-annual meteorological station calibration on January 31.
- Monthly groundwater elevation measurements were obtained January 22-24.
- A pit lake water elevation of 4228.967 feet amsl was recorded on January 24, 2013 from the pressure transducer, an increase of 0.457 feet since December 17, 2012. The pit lake elevation has risen 1.972 feet since January 24, 2012.
- One residence (DW-67) was added back into the domestic well sampling program (the residence had requested out of the program during the 1Q 2011 event).
- No new residences were added to the Bottled Water Program.
- Transmitted the 3Q 2012 Groundwater Monitoring Report on January 4.
- Continued the compilation of 4Q 2012 domestic well and groundwater monitoring data. Initiated the Annual 2012 Domestic Well and Groundwater Monitoring Reports (the latter to include a discussion of monitor well optimization).
- Prepared for the 1Q 2013 groundwater monitoring event.
- Completed the preparation of responses to comments and revisions to the 2010 Monitor Well and Ag Field Data Summary Report (DSR - Revision 1). Transmitted the revised Aquifer Test DSR to EPA on January 18.
- Presented an update of hydrogeochemical conditions at the Site, and a description of the Draft Revised Groundwater RI Work Plan, to the EPA-sponsored Community Meeting on January 31.
- Continued coordination and tracking of hydrologic tracer data from 2Q 2012 samples.
- Transmitted responses to EPA comments on the Process Areas (OU-3) Sub-Surface Utility and Dry Well Investigation Results for Phase I Activities - Revision 2 dated November 30, 2011, and EPA-requested replacement pages and figures for the technical memorandum, on January 22.
- Continued the preparation of comments on the Final Process Areas (OU-3) RI Work Plan dated November 2012.
- Routine database management activities and support of Site investigations and reports. Completed annual database checks, and 4Q 2012 sample date/time updates.

Planned February/March 2013 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continue routine Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities.
- Ship approximately 10 cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soils to the US Ecology landfill in Beatty NV as non-hazardous non-DOT regulated solid waste resulting from implementation of the VLT Transformer soil cleanup and the Process Areas sub-surface utility/dry well investigation.

Site Characterization Activities

- Continue groundwater elevation and pit lake level measurements, and meteorological monitoring.
- Continue the Bottled Water Program.
- Continue the compilation of data associated with 4Q 2012 domestic and groundwater monitoring events. Transmit the Annual Domestic Well Monitoring Report.
- Perform the 1Q 2013 groundwater monitoring event in February.
- Review comments on the revised Site-Wide Groundwater (OU-1) RI Work Plan when received, and attend a technical meeting in March to discuss the RI Work Plan and associated comments.
- Transmit OU-3 RI Work Plan review comments to EPA, and attend a meeting on February 20-21 to discuss the RI Work Plan and ARC comments.
- Initiate remaining Phase II geophysical and soil investigations associated with sub-surface utilities in the Process Areas.
- Review data quality objectives for the Wabuska Drain (OU-7) RI Work Plan when received.

Please contact me at (714) 228-6774 or via e-mail at jack.oman@bp.com if you have any questions or comments about the January 2013 monthly report.

Sincerely,



Jack Oman
Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Dave Seter, EPA – via electronic mail
Harry Ball, EPA – via electronic mail
Andrew Helmlinger, EPA – via electronic mail
Tom Dunkelman, EPA – via electronic mail
Greg Lovato, NDEP – via electronic mail
Tom Olsen, BLM – via electronic mail
Dan Newell, City of Yerington – via electronic mail
Phyllis Hunewill – via electronic mail
Virgil Arellano, Lyon County Commissioner – via electronic mail
Rob Loveberg, Lyon County Planning Department – via electronic mail
Tom Grady, Nevada State Assembly – via electronic mail
Jim Sanford, MVEC – via electronic mail
Lauryne Wright, YPT – via electronic mail
Chairman Stevens, YPT – via electronic mail
Dietrick McGinnis, McGinnis and Associates – via electronic mail
Tom Bowden, Ridolfi, Inc. – via electronic mail
Chairwoman McFalls, WRPT – via electronic mail

Tad Williams, WRPT – via electronic mail
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Marc Ferries, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
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